

are demanding that this House take action to protect our young people from gun violence.

□ 1015

That is why I am so proud to stand here with my colleagues in reading the rollcall of children who have been victims of gun violence since Columbine. The child safety locks could have prevented many of these accidental deaths. This Congress should pass this legislation and stop delaying, delaying, delaying.

Richard Stanley, age 15, killed by gunfire on August 6, 1999, West Palm Beach, Florida; Erik Kraemer, age 17, killed by gunfire on August 7, 1999, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin; Halley Finch and many more that I will place in the RECORD.

#### LET US PASS THE INTERSTATE CLASS ACTION JURISDICTION ACT TODAY

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, this week of September 19 to 25 marks Lawsuit Abuse Awareness Week. I commend members of the Western Maryland Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse, WMCALA, for joining thousands of Americans in informing the general public of the high price we all pay for frivolous lawsuits and excessive jury awards.

Today this House has the opportunity to reduce lawsuit abuse by passing the Interstate Class Action Jurisdiction Act. This bill will discourage frivolous class action claims.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote yes and pass this sensible and important legislation.

Frivolous lawsuits and excessive jury awards exact a heavy price from all Americans in the form of higher prices for goods and services, fewer jobs, loss of safety improvements and product innovations, and delays in compensation for citizens with legitimate claims. Please pass the Interstate Class Action Jurisdiction Act today.

#### LET US PASS REAL GUN SAFETY REFORM NOW

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stood here yesterday and I will stand here many more days, if it takes our presence on the floor to cause this Congress to pass real gun safety reform.

I stand here to continue the rollcall of dead children who have been killed by gunfire since Columbine. Mr. Speaker, it is important that we close the

gun show loopholes that will disallow criminals and others who should not have guns from getting guns. It will disallow those who would kill our children or would put guns in the hands of our children that they might accidentally shoot each other.

Mr. Speaker, are my colleagues aware that unlike our movie theaters where one must be accompanied by an adult for certain type movies, that children can randomly go through gun shows with no supervision? Yes, Mr. Speaker, we need real gun safety reform, the elimination of automatic clips. We need to protect our children, and it is for that reason I stand here today to read the rollcall of our dead children who died by gunfire:

Timothy Rodriguez, age 16, killed by gunfire on August 7, 1999, Peoria, Arizona; Preston Posey, age 14, killed by gunfire on August 8, 1999, Louisville, Kentucky; Jaire Soler, age 15, killed by gunfire on August 8, 1999, Bronx, New York.

#### AMERICA HAS OVERPAID THE COST OF GOVERNMENT

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, imagine going to McDonald's and ordering a nine-piece chicken nuggets and a large drink. The cost is \$4.50. You give the clerk a \$5 bill. The clerk takes your money, gives you the chicken and the drink but no change. So you ask, where is my fifty cents? And the clerk says, well, I could give you the fifty cents, but then I would have to trust you to spend it right.

Well, you would be appalled. You would be angry. It is your money. But, Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what will happen if the President vetoes the tax cut.

America has overpaid the cost of government. We locked up all Social Security. We have protected all of Medicare payments. We are even paying down the publicly held debt, and still we have money left over. We have overpaid the cost of government. The change is ours.

Well, the President does not trust us to spend it right. He has even publicly said so. But I trust you, the Republicans trust you, and I hope the President will change his mind and trust America and give us back our change and sign the tax relief law.

#### CHILDREN KILLED BY GUNFIRE

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to continue to read the names of children killed by gunfire

since the April 20 Columbine massacre: Anthony Joseph Stroud, age 12, killed by gunfire in July 1999, Houston, Texas; Reginald McClaine, age 16, killed by gunfire on August 4, 1999, Bronx, New York; Aaron Thomas, age 16, killed by gunfire on August 5, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri; Erik Kraemer, age 17, killed by gunfire on August 7, 1999, Turtle Lake, Wisconsin; Halley Finch, age 5, killed by gunfire on August 7, 1999, Gary, Indiana; Jeremy Lee Gearon, age 16, killed by gunfire on August 7, 1999, Gary, Indiana; DeJuan Williams, age 17, killed by gunfire on August 9, 1999, St. Louis, Missouri; Alexandre Durrie, age 14, killed by gunfire on August 10, 1999, Miami, Dade County, Florida.

#### EVERY CHILD IN AMERICA IS NOW SADLY A TARGET OF CHINESE MISSILES, COURTESY OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I note with interest the recitation of names by my colleagues on the left. I think it is a tragedy when any child dies. I think it is likewise a tragedy when we can add to the rollcall the names of the living. Nicole Irene Hayworth, Scottsdale, Arizona; Hannah Lynn Hayworth, Scottsdale, Arizona; John Mica Hayworth, Scottsdale, Arizona; and every child in America now sadly a target of Chinese missiles, courtesy of transfers of technology, curiously supported by campaign donations from Chinese interests to the Democratic National Committee.

Yes, it is a tragedy when any child dies, but the answer is not in abridging constitutional rights. It is in enforcing existing laws on the books. Just as current laws for campaign finance have not been enforced, just as current laws for firearms have not been enforced, the lawlessness, Mr. Speaker, comes from those who are elected to faithfully execute the laws.

#### WE DO NOT NEED ANOTHER MONTH IN OUR CALENDAR TO CONTINUE DOING NOTHING

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, with only 6 congressional working days remaining in this Federal fiscal year, only one of the 13 appropriations bills necessary for the continued operation of our Government has actually been signed into law. This is the kind of record of inattention to duty, of inaction that brought us the costly Republican government shutdowns in the all-too-recent past.

It is perhaps most symbolic of this Congress that one of the few bills that

has been approved was a commemorative medal for the great explorers Lewis and Clark, for I think that not even such great explorers could find any accomplishment in this Congress. In the words of the majority leader, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARMEY), "We have sort of bumped into a wall."

With this Congress, America is bumping into a wall of inaction.

Now the Republican leadership is even considering the creation of a thirteenth month on the Federal calendar. If they worked more than halftime during the first 12 months, we would not need such nonsense.

#### CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION HAVE TURNED BLIND EYE TO RUSSIAN CORRUPTION

(Mr. ROYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, over the last 7 years, the IMF, with the backing of the Clinton administration, has loaned the Russian Government \$20 billion. All the while, the administration assured Congress and the American people that they were working with Russia to facilitate reforms. Yet as details of the vast money laundering out of Russia unraveled this month, Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott said, quote, "calm down, world. We have been aware from the beginning that crime and corruption are a huge problem in Russia and a huge obstacle to Russian reform."

Indeed, in 1995, the CIA met with Vice President Gore to present evidence on the personal corruption of Prime Minister Victor Chernomyrdin with whom Vice President Gore led a joint American-Russian commission. According to the New York Times, Mr. Gore rejected that report.

It is time that the Clinton-Gore administration tell Congress and the American people what else they have rejected and why they have turned a blind eye for so long.

#### THE PRESIDENT SHOULD RECONSIDER HIS VETO OF THE TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, the President's penchant for raising taxes on America's working-class families, to fund costly, unproven and inefficient government programs for special interest groups, his expected veto today of the Taxpayer Relief Act is neither surprising nor unexpected. However, one would think this President would care to leave a better legacy than having created the most costly and overbearing bureaucracy in the history of our Nation.

If and when the President uses his veto pen later today, he will effectively eliminate the best opportunity we have ever had to protect Social Security and Medicare, while paying down the massive debt our country has accrued after 40 years of liberal spending.

There is more, Mr. Speaker. In addition to offering broad relief for middle-class taxpayers, including the repeal of the death tax, an across-the-board reduction in income and capital gains tax rates, marriage tax penalty relief and education, health care and dependent care assistance, the Taxpayer Refund and Relief Act contains provisions specifically designed to assist America's farmers and ranchers currently enduring the worst farm economy since the Great Depression.

The President's harmful treatment of agriculture is nothing new either. His affinity for campaign-style rhetoric, broken promises and outright hostility toward agriculture has resulted in record numbers of farmers and ranchers facing defaults, foreclosures, and farm auctions.

#### STAND FIRM FOR THE BENEFITS EVERY AMERICAN DESERVES: JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, let me just say that we put together a \$792 billion tax relief package for the people of the United States of America. There is a tax savings for every American. There is tax savings for education.

We tried to put America back on track. Guess what the President is going to do today? He is going to veto that legislation and put a \$792 billion tax increase on every American person in this country.

Furthermore, to try to offset the stench of Waco that is going around today, this White House has the audacity to try to sue an American industry, the tobacco companies. They are legal operations. The idea is to take the pressure off of Waco.

We must have justice in this Nation. We are a Nation of justice. We must stand firm for the benefits that every American deserves, and that is justice under the law.

#### THE MARRIAGE TAX PENALTY WILL CONTINUE

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today's theme team is proud to present to the President of the United States the smoke and mirror award for vetoing the middle-class tax cut. The middle class in America, the President says,

deserves a break. Of course, a couple of years ago, remember, he was asking these same middle class people to invest in government and yet today he refused to invest in them by letting us keep our own money.

Therefore, in Savannah, Georgia, Marilyn and Robert Johnson will continue to pay the marriage tax penalty that they are having to pay ever since they were married, because this President does not want to give them relief.

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Ms. C.C. Jones in Brunswick, Georgia who works out of her house will continue to not have the 100 percent deduction for buying her health care, because the President will not give it to her. And then, a good friend of mine named Jimmy, I am not going to say his last name, because he is in an income bracket that is not necessarily something the President cares about, he would have gotten a 7 percent tax reduction today, but the President says, no, Jimmy, you keep on working those 50 to 60 hours a week, because Washington is going to grow, not the American taxpayers. They are not going to keep their money.

To you, Mr. President, I proudly present the Smoke and Mirror Award. Job well done for government bureaucrats. One more victory for Washington, one less for middle-class taxpayers.

#### TAX BILL DOES NOT PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY

(Mr. GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today and say that I am glad the President is going to veto that tax cut bill, because talk about smoke and mirrors, over the next 10 years, they expect to have a \$3 trillion surplus if the economy stays as good as it is today, and \$2 trillion of that is Social Security receipts. The Republicans passed a \$790 billion bill for a tax cut. That does not leave anything for Medicare; it does not leave anything for education.

Of course, why should we expect them to plan for 10 years from now? Right now, the last appropriations bill we have on this floor, it is not even here yet, is the education funding bill. It should be first and not last. They are going to cut Federal aid to education dramatically to meet their caps, and that is what is wrong.

That is why I am glad the President is vetoing that tax bill, because it does not plan for the future of our country.

#### REPUBLICANS WANT AMERICANS TO SPEND THEIR OWN MONEY

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)